

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 2**  
**INCIDENT NO. 2004-059**  
**DATE: May 13, 2004      Time 5:00 p.m.**

**TO:** Governor John Hoeven  
State Capitol  
Bismarck ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring Storms – On May 11-12, snow and ice storms with high winds caused power outages, loss of communications, hazardous travel and damage to trees with resulting debris problems.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No deaths or injuries have been reported.
3. DAMAGES: Officials for the N.D. Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC) reported the areas hardest hit by spring storms on May 11-12 include Cavalier, Mountrail and northwestern Ward counties. Following is a summary of initial assessments by the association's members:
  - Verendrye REC – approximately 150 poles down; power restoration is expected by May 14.
  - Northern Plains REC -- approximately 20 poles down; power restoration is expected by May 14.
  - Mountrail-Williams REC – approximately 200 poles down, and an estimated 500 customers are without service; power restoration is expected within seven days. The Blaisdell Substation is currently off line, as well as the transmission line from Stanley to Blaisdell.
  - Cavalier REC – approximately 650 poles down, and approximately 700 customers are without service; power restoration is expected within nine days.
  - Minnkota Power – approximately 71 poles down (including 69KV transmission lines); repairs are expected to be completed by Saturday, May 15.

RECs are compiling more detailed damage reports.

**Mountrail County:** Rural residents who are without power have relocated to towns; some are using their campers for shelter. Cell phone service was disrupted but has since been restored. Officials reported extensive tree damage. Motorists are taking alternate routes to avoid downed power lines.

**Pembina County:** As a result of snow, rain and ice, township roads are soft and water is lying in ditches and nearby fields. Power was out in some rural areas of the western part of the state. Trees and branches are broken due to ice accumulation and wind, particularly in the western part of the county. The Walhalla school has a significant amount of water pooling on the roof, which is being pumped off to avoid damage.

**Ramsey County:** Approximately 50 Cavalier REC customers in the northern part of Ramsey County are without power; power restoration is expected by Friday, May 14.

**Ward County:** The emergency manager reported that the Verendrye Rural Electric Cooperative has storm damage at 158 different line locations, including wire breaks, damaged cross arms, broken poles and insulators. This damage occurred in the Berthold, Des Lacs, South Prairie, Max and Carpio areas. Over 1,000 customers were affected, and currently 456 have yet to get power restored. The REC has nine additional line crews to help restore power.

**Williams County:** Power outages have occurred in the northern portion of the county, as well as the northern and eastern section of the city of Williston. Emergency management officials reported crews and equipment worked around the clock to restore power to 2,000 customers.

4. **RESOURCES:**

**LOCAL:** Agencies providing assistance included the following: the emergency managers, the sheriff's departments, the city police departments, the county and city administrative offices, the communication departments and the public works departments.

**STATE:** Agencies monitoring storm conditions include the Governor's Office, the N.D. Division of Emergency Management/State Radio (NDDEM/SR), the N.D. Department of Transportation (NDDOT), the N.D. Forest Service (NDFS) and the N.D. Highway Patrol (NDHP).

**FEDERAL:** The National Weather Service (NWS) provided weather analysis and forecasts.

5. **VOLUNTEER ACTION:** Rural neighbors in Mountrail County are loaning their generators to provide livestock an adequate water supply.
6. **MAJOR ACTIONS:** On May 13, the Cavalier and Mountrail County Commissions issued emergency declarations.
7. **ASSISTANCE NEEDED:** No outside assistance has been requested.
8. **OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE:** Johner Brothers Contracting from Linton, N.D., employees are on scene assisting REC crews in Mountrail County.
9. **OTHER INFORMATION:** The N.D. Division of Emergency Management's Situation Reports are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

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Douglas C. Friez, State Director